

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-04

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY IO/ SCT: MR. TREVITHICK

6/8/73 EXT. 23511

APPROVED BY IO: MR. CAVANAUGH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 1916

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FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO GENEVA FROM BEIRUT

01 JUN 73:

QUOTE BEIRUT 6416

E. O. 11652: NA DECON 6/1/74

TAGS: SENV UN LE

SUBJ: REGIONAL OFFICE OF UN ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM

1. LEBANESE FOREIGN OFFICE HAS REQUESTED USG SUPPORT FOR SELECTION BEIRUT AS LOCATION FOR REGIONAL OFFICE OF UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM. DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS (HADDAD) TOLD EMBOFF THAT FONMIN HAD TAKEN DECISION PRESENT BEIRUT'S CANDIDACY AT JUNE 12 MEETING OF UN ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL IN GENEVA, ALTHOUGH ARAB LEAGUE HAD EARLIER DECIDED SUPPORT DAMASCUS AS SITE OF REGIONAL OFFICE. FONMIN REQUESTED USG SUPPORT FOR BEIRUT AND HOPED WE WOULD WEIGH IN WITH OTHERS (UNSPECIFIED) TO HELP LEBANON.

2. EMBOFF POINTED OUT THAT FOR LEBANON TO FIGHT SOLID PHALANX OF OTHER ARABS IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE LIKELY PRODUCE POSITIVE RESULT. BASED ON PAST EXPERIENCE, UNANIMOUS CHOICE OF ONE REGIONAL GROUP USUALLY RESPECTED BY OTHER REGIONAL GROUPS.

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3. AFTER TALKING AGAIN TO FONMIN, HADDAD INFORMED EMBOFF THAT
LEBANON WOULD PROPOSE BEIRUT AS SITE PROVIDED DAMASCUS
FAILED BE APPROVED. FONMIN INSTRUCTING LEBANESE DEL TO
ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL IN THIS SENSE. FONMIN ASKED THAT USG
SUPPORT LEBANON ON THIS BASIS. EMBOFF SAID HE WOULD CONVEY
REQUEST TO DEPT AND GENEVA RIGHT AWAY. HOUGHTON UNQUOTE
RUSH

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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